

Welcome to the TRICARE Pharmacy Program!

The Department of Defense provides a world-class pharmacy benefit through TRICARE to all eligible uniformed service members, retirees, and family members, including beneficiaries age 65 and older. The TRICARE Pharmacy Program provides outpatient prescription drugs to more than 9.4 million individuals.

TRICARE has selected Express Scripts, Inc. (Express Scripts) to provide your mail-order, retail, and specialty pharmacy services. Express Scripts handles millions of prescriptions each year through mail-order and retail pharmacies. If you have used the TRICARE Pharmacy Program before, you will be pleased to know we have improved the benefit and you do not have to do anything.

The TRICARE Pharmacy Program is designed to provide the medications you need, when you need them, in a safe, convenient, and cost-effective manner. The program's three objectives are to:

- **1. Provide a uniform, effective, and efficient benefit** TRICARE provides you with several pharmacy options. The enclosed *TRICARE Pharmacy Program Handbook* contains more information on:
 - Military treatment facility pharmacies
 - Mail Order Pharmacy
 - TRICARE retail network pharmacies
 - Non-network retail pharmacies
- **2. Encourage Mail Order Pharmacy use** The Mail Order Pharmacy is your least expensive option when not using a military treatment facility pharmacy. You can receive up to a 90-day supply of maintenance medications delivered directly to your home. The Mail Order Pharmacy now offers an additional program designed to provide enhanced education for and promote safe use of specialty medications. These medications require special handling and administration, require frequent dose changes, and may benefit from additional clinical monitoring to achieve the best results. The Member Choice Center is available at **1-877-363-1433** to help you switch prescriptions to the convenient, cost-effective Mail Order Pharmacy.
- **3. Promote patient safety** All prescriptions dispensed to you through military treatment facilities, the Mail Order Pharmacy, and retail network pharmacies are rigorously checked for accuracy and against your TRICARE prescription history for potential drug interactions.

The TRICARE Retail Pharmacy Network includes all of the major national chains, over 100 regional chains, and more than 20,000 independent community pharmacies. If you are unsure if your current pharmacy participates in the TRICARE Retail Pharmacy Network, please ask your pharmacist.

For more information, refer to the enclosed *TRICARE Pharmacy Program Handbook*. You can also visit www.tricare.mil/pharmacy or www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE, or call 1-877-363-1303.

In good health,

Thomas of McSinnis

RADM Thomas J. McGinnis, RPh, USPHS Chief, Pharmaceutical Operations Directorate